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E-filed: 2/19/08

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
SAN JOSE DIVISION

HYNIX SEMICONDUCTOR INC., HYNIX  
SEMICONDUCTOR AMERICA INC.,  
HYNIX SEMICONDUCTOR U.K. LTD., and  
HYNIX SEMICONDUCTOR  
DEUTSCHLAND GmbH,

Plaintiffs,

v.

RAMBUS INC.,

Defendant.

No. CV-00-20905 RMW

ORDER REGARDING JOSEPH  
McALEXANDER

**[Re Docket No. 3215]**

RAMBUS INC.,  
Plaintiff,

v.

HYNIX SEMICONDUCTOR INC., HYNIX  
SEMICONDUCTOR AMERICA INC.,  
HYNIX SEMICONDUCTOR  
MANUFACTURING AMERICA INC.,

SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO., LTD.,  
SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS AMERICA,  
INC., SAMSUNG SEMICONDUCTOR, INC.,  
SAMSUNG AUSTIN SEMICONDUCTOR,  
L.P.,

NANYA TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION,  
NANYA TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION  
U.S.A.,

Defendants.

No. C-05-00334 RMW

[Re Docket No. 1249]

RAMBUS INC.,  
Plaintiff,

v.

MICRON TECHNOLOGY, INC., and  
MICRON SEMICONDUCTOR PRODUCTS,  
INC.

Defendants.

No. C-06-00244 RMW

[Re Docket No. 860]

This order addresses whether Joseph McAlexander may testify regarding two specific exhibits. The court has reviewed the briefs filed and grants the motion in part. The Manufacturers may not examine him in connection with the "admission" from the *Infineon* litigation, but may use, based upon their representation, versions of JEDEC standard 21-C.

### I. THE TWO-DAY RULE

Rambus's trial brief first argues that the Manufacturers cannot call Joseph McAlexander on Tuesday, February 19 because he was improperly disclosed. This matter has been resolved, but merits comment to avoid future misunderstanding. The proceedings on Thursday, February 14,

ended while Rambus was conducting its cross-examination of Lester Vincent. Following the proceedings, the court inquired as to who would testify after Mr. Vincent on the next day of testimony (Tuesday, February 19). The Manufacturers stated that:

Mr. Ruby: We'll have ready for Tuesday, as I understand it, Mr. Oh, Dr. Oh, Graham Allan, Mr. Krashinsky, and we have the video if we run out of time.  
The court: Okay.  
Mr. Ruby: Okay.

Tr. 1725:16-20. Apparently by email on Saturday afternoon (February 16), the Manufacturers indicated that after Mr. Vincent's testimony finished, they would call Dr. Oh, play the video of Mr. Yoo, and then call Joseph McAlexander.

The court's order explaining trial procedures stated that, "Exhibits to be used in connection with the examination of a witness must be identified with the witness 2 business days prior to calling the witness." *E.g.*, Docket No. 1137, C-05-00334, at ¶ D (N.D. Cal. Jan. 30, 2008). The order's intent is that a party must inform the other side two business days before they intend to call a witness. If the Manufacturers wished to call Mr. McAlexander on Tuesday, they should have identified him on Thursday, February 14, the date on which they expressly did not identify him.

The Manufacturers respond that Rambus's argument is "baseless" because "[t]he Manufacturers identified Mr. McAlexander and disclosed the materials to be used in connection with the examination of Mr. McAlexander *six business days* prior to February 18. Rambus has had the materials for over ten calendar days." Opp'n at 1 (emphasis in original). Basically, the Manufacturers interpret the rule as requiring disclosure *at least* two business days before they intend to call a witness.

The Manufacturers misunderstand the text and purpose of the disclosure order. First, the rule does not include the words "at least" – it states that witnesses must be disclosed two business days before the party intends to call them. The purpose of the two-business day rule is to enable the other side to prepare its cross-examination and any objections to exhibits or demonstratives in a reasonable manner. While providing more time allows the other side more time to prepare, the argument fails when extended to its conclusion. Under the Manufacturers' "at least two business

1 days" rule, the Manufacturers could disclose all of their witnesses and accompanying exhibits, call  
2 them in any order they desire, and leave Rambus scrambling to effectively cross-examine witnesses  
3 as the order in which they are called keeps shifting.

4 Indeed, this appears to be happening and this problem is not limited to Mr. McAlexander. At  
5 present, the Manufacturers appear to have disclosed over 11 hours of direct testimony. *See* Tr.  
6 1726:18-1727:23 (argument of Mr. Stone). Under the version of the rule the Manufacturers now  
7 advocate, they could put on any of those witnesses whenever they please because they have been  
8 disclosed for more than two business days. This puts Rambus at a disadvantage and also prejudices  
9 the court's ability to resolve trial motions in a reasonable manner. For example, trial motions  
10 regarding the testimony of William Davidow, Terry Lee, and Graham Allan have all been briefed,  
11 but no one knows when the Manufacturers will call these witnesses. The two-day rule described  
12 herein must be followed by both sides in the future.

## 13 II. SPECIFIC EXHIBITS

14 Rambus also objects to the use of two types of exhibits with Mr. McAlexander: prior  
15 statements in litigation and various copies of JEDEC standards.

### 16 A. The "Undisputed Facts" From The *Infineon* Litigation

17 The Manufacturers intend to ask Mr. McAlexander to opine whether a reasonable memory  
18 engineer would have been on notice that Rambus was seeking patents covering aspects of the  
19 JEDEC SDRAM standard. In forming that opinion, Mr. McAlexander relied on three statements  
20 Rambus made to JEDEC: its disclosure of the '703 patent in 1993, its letter regarding patent issues  
21 relating to SyncLink in 1995, and its resignation letter in 1996. The Manufacturers hope to bolster  
22 the perceived reliability of Mr. McAlexander's opinion by demonstrating that he considered the  
23 entire "universe" of statements Rambus made to JEDEC. Rambus argues that the evidence in this  
24 trial has revealed other communications, notably an instance where Richard Crisp refused to  
25 comment regarding patent rights.

26 Nonetheless, the Manufacturers hope to introduce as evidence a statement regarding  
27 "undisputed facts" from the *Infineon* litigation. Infineon submitted that after Richard Crisp  
28

1 disclosed the '703 patent, Rambus "made no other disclosures of patents or pending patents" while at  
2 JEDEC. Rambus disputed the statement, explaining that: "The '703 patent disclosure, Rambus'  
3 September 1995 letter, and its June 1996 letter were the only communications to JEDEC that  
4 commented on Rambus' patents or patent applications."

5 The probative value of Rambus's statement is minimal. At best, it bolsters McAlexander's  
6 selection of data on which he is rendering his opinion, though the jury has already heard about Mr.  
7 Crisp's refusal to comment (and will no doubt here more). On the other hand, explaining the  
8 statement requires explaining the *Infineon* litigation, which the court has already ordered kept out of  
9 evidence absent good cause. Because admitting the exhibit into evidence in connection with Mr.  
10 McAlexander's testimony is substantially more prejudicial than probative, the court excludes it  
11 pursuant to Rule 403.<sup>1</sup> This issue may be revisited if Rambus emphasizes and faults Mr.  
12 McAlexander because he failed to consider other evidence.

### 13 B. Various Copies of the JEDEC 21-C Standard

14 The Manufacturers also plan to elicit testimony from Mr. McAlexander regarding the  
15 viability of alternative technologies. In doing so, they hope to use various releases of the JEDEC  
16 21-C standards to illustrate what technological features are in the standard. Rambus objects, arguing  
17 that Mr. McAlexander's report does not disclose the exhibits or shed light on how he intends to use  
18 them. The court's understanding of the oral argument on this motion is that the standards will only  
19 be used for illustrative purposes, and not to support testimony beyond the bounds of Mr.  
20 McAlexander's expert report. *Compare* Tr. 1755:21-22 (Mr. Bobrow: "So it's a very, very limited  
21 use that we intend to make.") *with* Tr. 1754:16-19 (Mr. Eskovitz: "You know, if it's simply a matter  
22 of showing that the JEDEC standards, the JEDEC standard for SDRAM or DDR include a particular

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23  
24 <sup>1</sup> The court declines to decide whether the statement is an "admission" under FRE  
25 801(d)(2) and therefore not hearsay. The Ninth Circuit has stated that "a statement made by an attorney  
26 is *generally* admissible against the client." *Totten v. Merkle*, 137 F.3d 1172, 1176 (9th Cir. 1998)  
27 (emphasis added). In *Totten*, the Ninth Circuit was considering the admissibility of an unsigned  
28 declaration of the party submitted by the attorney. *Id.* On the other hand, the First Circuit has explained  
that, "unlike, say, factual allegations in trial court pleadings, statements contained in briefs submitted  
by a party's attorney in one case cannot routinely be used in another case as evidentiary admissions of  
the party." *Martel v. Stafford*, 992 F.2d 1244, 1248 (1st Cir. 1993). Without deciding whether the  
statement here involves an admission, FRE 403 concerns substantially outweigh the probative value..

1 feature, I don't think that's a concern of ours[.]"). Provided the exhibits remain confined to their  
2 limited uses, the court denies Rambus's motion to exclude them. In the event that Rambus feels that  
3 the Manufacturers are using the exhibits in a way not supported by Mr. McAlexander's report, it may  
4 renew the objection.

### 5 III. ORDER

6 For the foregoing reasons, the court grants the motion in part. The Manufacturers may not  
7 examine Mr. McAlexander in connection with the "admission" from the *Infineon* litigation. Based  
8 upon the representation of intended use, the Manufacturers may offer the various releases of JEDEC  
9 21-C.

10  
11 DATED: 2/19/08



RONALD M. WHYTE  
United States District Judge

**Notice of this document has been electronically sent to:**

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**Dated:** 2/19/08

TSF  
**Chambers of Judge Whyte**